

*Application No. 09/923272*  
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*Amendment*  
*Attorney Docket No. D55.2B-10027-US01*

**Amendments To The Specification:**

On page 6 between lines 4 and 5 please insert the following paragraph:

In at least one embodiment, as depicted in figures 1 and 2, a first sector 32 of vents 30 is proximate to the breach end 14. In the first sector 32, adjacent ports 30 are spaced four inches from each other. The sector 32 of ports 30 which is centrally disposed between the breach end 14 and the muzzle end 16 preferably includes vents 30 having a three inch spacing between adjacent ports 30. The sector 32 of vents 30 proximate to the muzzle end 16 preferably includes ports 30 having a two inch spacing between adjacent vents 30. The spacing between adjacent vents 30 decreases in dimension between sectors along the length of the barrel 10 moving outwardly from the breach end 14 toward the muzzle end 16. In other words, a larger number of ports 30 are provided in the sector 32 adjacent to the muzzle end 16, as compared to the sector 32 proximate to the breach end 14. In addition, the spacing between adjacent vents 30 proximate to the muzzle end 16 is reduced as compared to the spacing between adjacent ports 30 proximate to the breach end 14.